

Mrs. Brannelly's Grading System 2016-2017

Language Arts and Social Studies

The Amesbury Middle School uses an online grade program called Aspen X2. Every parent will be given a user name and password so they can check their child's progress. It is highly recommended that parents also set a "threshold" number. If your child receives a score below the threshold an email will be sent alerting parents to the low score.

The grading system is divided into 2 categories.

1. Classwork (Called 'OTHER' in Aspen X2) is worth 90%. (This not only includes classwork, but tests, quizzes, projects and written class assignments.)
2. Homework is worth 10%.

The grading system for most homework assignments and some classwork (Type 1, Type 2 and worksheets or 'think sheets') is the following:

- Check + = 100 points (The assignment is on time, complete, and follows the expectations/directions/teacher's model.)
- Check= 80 points (The assignment is not on time, incomplete or does not follow the expectations/directions/teacher's model.)
- Check - = 60 points (The assignment is more than 3 days late, very incomplete or clearly doesn't follow the expectations/directions/teacher's model.)

The students are made aware if the above grading system will not be used for an assignment. The alternate grading system will be explained. For example, an assignment with FCAs is often a number grade. Tests and quizzes also receive number grades.

Assignments in the Classwork category will be weighted differently.

Type 1 assignments are worth	.5
Type 2 assignments are worth/general classwork	1
Type 3 assignments and quizzes are worth	2
Type 4, Type 5 and tests are worth	3

If a student is out sick an "M" will be given in the grade book. This stands for MEDICAL. The "M" is calculated by the computer as a zero. It alerts both the teacher and parent that work needs to be made up. The "M" will change to a grade once the work has been turned in. If the work is not completed within two weeks of the child's return to school, the "M" becomes a permanent zero in the grade book. It is up to the student to ask for missed work.

A student can receive an "E" in the grade book. This stands for EXEMPT. The "E" is not calculated by the computer. It is as if the assignment never existed for the student. An exempt is given if the assignment is something the student missed and really can't make up. For example, most students were asked to take notes on a movie and a student was absent, dismissed or at the nurse. This student would receive an "E".

Descriptions for assignments can be found in Aspen X2. For example, if you click on the assignment name, often you will find details about the assignment, if a retake is offered, or if the grade can be improved in any way.

Specific comments will occasionally be written about an individual student's work. Only the parent and the teacher will have access to this information. This will be used to further explain a student's grade. This is helpful to let parents know when work is turned in late or why a grade might be unusually low or to congratulate a student on a great achievement.

Please allow one week for class work and homework to appear in the grade book.

Please allow 48-72 hours for a test/quiz to appear in the grade book.

It is recommended that parents check the online grade book (Aspen X2) once a week.

Please feel free to email with questions. brannellyk@amesburyma.gov (Please allow 48 hours for a return email.)